

# JACKIE SPEAKS TO NEWSMEN

Says 'Telis and I Are  
Very Happy' in Interview

By CHRIS ELIOU

Scorpios island, Greece (AP)—Barefoot and radiant on the eve of her wedding, Jacqueline Kennedy spoke publicly Saturday for the first time of her romance with Aristotle Onassis and said: "Telis and I are very happy."

Mrs. Kennedy, her arms about her children John Jr. and Caroline, then posed for photographers on this 500-acre island haven in the Ionian Sea.

Moments before, there was a scuffle between newsmen and guards intent on keeping all but invited guests away from the wedding of President John F. Kennedy's 39-year-old widow and the 62-year-old Greek shipping magnate.

After she was photographed cradling John's head in her arms and walking with Caroline barefoot by her side, Mrs. Kennedy appealed to newsmen to respect her privacy.

"We wish our wedding to be a private moment in the little chapel among the cypresses of Scorpios, with only members of the family and their little children," she said in a statement.

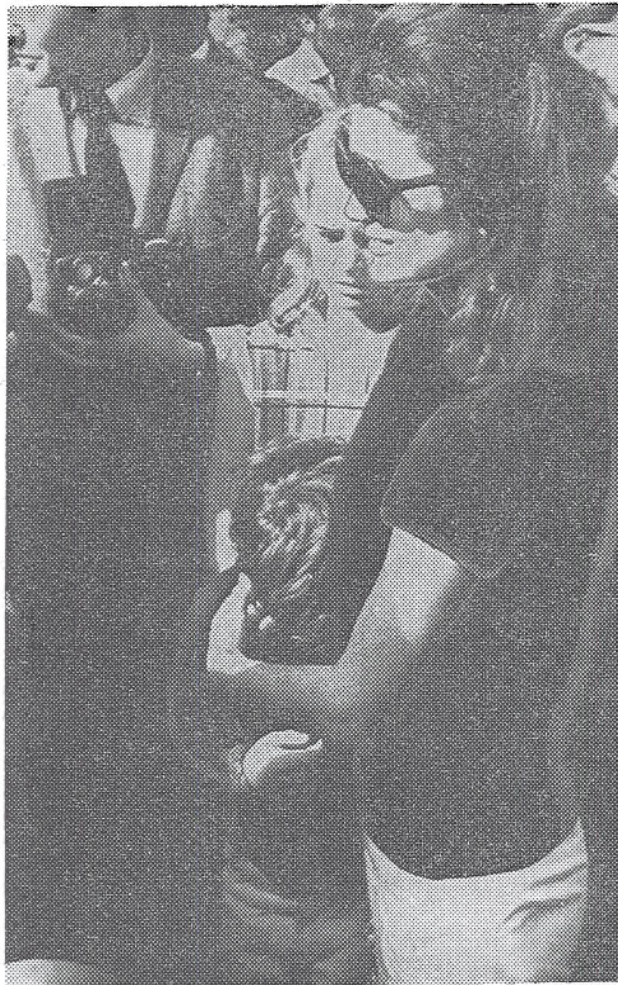
"Understand that even though people may be well-known, they still hold in their hearts the emotion of a simple person for the moments that are the most important we know on earth—both marriage and death."

Sleek in white slacks, a black turtleneck blouse and big sunglasses, Mrs. Kennedy used a nicknamed for her betrothed which was a switch from "Ari," the name by which Onassis, has long been known in the international jet set.

The nickname comes from the Greek spelling of Aristotle—Aristotelis.

## REFUSES TO ANSWER

A Roman Catholic, Mrs. Kennedy refused to answer questions about arrangements for the Greek Orthodox wedding ceremony that will jeopardize her standing in her own church because Onassis is divorced. Onassis remained on his yacht Christina.



MRS. JACQUELINE KENNEDY cradles the head of son John in her arms as she met newsmen briefly Saturday on the Island of Scorpios in Greece on the eve of her wedding Sunday on the island to Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis. Daughter Caroline stands in background.

But an officer of the Christina, on which the romance was born, said the ceremony will be held between noon and 2 p.m. Sunday. And Princess Lee Radziwill, the bride's sister, remarked in Athens on her way to Scorpios, "I believe that is the plan."

The island's chapel is named Panayitas—the Little Virgin.

Metropolitan Bishop Nicodemus of the Greek Orthodox Diocese traveled from Athens to his official seat at Levkas, across Levkas Bay from Scorpios. There was speculation that he or a Levkas priest, Father Papacostopoulos, would officiate.

## NO PERMIT YET

The wedding permit would be issued through the bishop's office. His secretary, Father Katsambellis, said nobody had applied for one up to midafternoon, but "We are standing by and will issue a license anytime they ask for it."

Two crowns of orange blossoms—worn by bridal couples as a symbol of fertility and purity—and two slim white candles carried by pages in the traditional Orthodox rites were flown in from Athens.

Security restrictions eased after a small party of newsmen braved Onassis' circling speed boats and shore guards and sailed to the dockside where the Christina was anchored.

Workers and crewmen pushed and shoved photographers when they stepped ashore to try for pictures of 8-year-old John F. Kennedy Jr., who was riding around in a minijep. John's governess, who accompanied him from New York, whisked him away.

## 'ORDERS TO SINK'

Achilleus Kapsambellis, supervisor of the island personnel, threatened the newsmen with a good-sized rock, but a yacht crewman interceded. He told the newsmen unless they kept away "we have orders to sink you."

But the party wasn't sunk and about 100 correspondents and photographers eventually landed. They refused to leave until Mrs. Kennedy strode down the Christina's gangplank.

She was accompanied by John and her daughter Caroline, 12, and her sisters-in-law, Mrs. Stephen Smith and Mrs. Peter Lawford.

Later Onassis took Mrs. Kennedy and the children on a motorboat cruise of Levkas Bay. He steered close to the shore of Levkas and villagers cheered as the party waved.

In the wedding, Orthodox rites provide that the bride and bridegroom stand silently. They do not say "I do" or anything else during the colorful ceremony, which lasts about 45 minutes.

## 'DANCE OF ISAIAH'

Then comes "the dance of Isaiah," in which the bride and groom try to stamp on each other's feet. Whoever is first in this activity will, according to tra-

dition, be the dominant partner in life.

It was in such a ceremony that Onassis, who ran a \$60 stake into a fortune now estimated at \$500 million or more, married Athina Livanos, daughter of another Greek shipping magnate, in 1956. Charging mental cruelty, she divorced him in Alabama June 24, 1960.

His church gave him permission to remarry by approving the divorce in an ecclesiastical decree in 1961.

But Vatican theologians hold that when he and Mrs. Kennedy are married, the marriage will be invalid in the eyes of the Roman Catholic Church. Excommunication is the Roman Catholic Church's gravest penalty for those who transgress Church laws. They lose the right to receive the sacraments.

Mrs. Kennedy's mother, Mrs. Hugh D. Auchincloss, was excommunicated when she remarried after her divorce from Jack Bouvier, a sportsman and stockbroker. Jacqueline was 10 at that time.

#### ARCHBISHOP SAYS

The Catholic archbishop of Athens, the Most Rev. Benedictus Printesis, opposed the Scorpios Island proceedings, saying: "No second marriage is allowed of a Catholic to a divorced person. I cannot understand how a good Catholic like Mrs. Kennedy can contract a second marriage with a divorced man like Mr. Onassis."

The ceremony will be private, limited to family and a few friends, about 40 persons in all. Both Onassis and Mrs. Kennedy, widowed by the assassin's bullet that struck down her husband in Dallas, Tex., Nov. 22, 1963, want the event to be their own and the measures to insure this have been extraordinary.

Speedboats circled hour after hour to discourage maritime gate-crashing of the island Onassis has turned into a private paradise where he has a 20-room mansion and parking spots for his yacht, his seaplane and his helicopters.

Princess Radziwill and her husband Prince Stanislas Radziwill, a Polish nobleman with business interests in London, came with their children, Anna Catherine and Anthony. The princess had a tan from a vacation in Tunisia.

#### SHE INTRODUCED

Princess Radziwill told newsmen earlier in an airport stop that she had more than an ordinary interest in the wedding because she introduced Jacqueline to Onassis.

"I am sure that he's the man who will know how to give her the kind of life she needs," the princess said. "It doesn't make much difference what the Americans think of this marriage even though I perfectly understand their surprise. I am thinking above all of the happiness of my sister who has done a lot for her country."

"I believe that the marriage should bring her the peace and tranquility she has been hoping to have."

She has seen her husband murdered, endured the murder of his brother, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, and has been unable to stroll down a street without Secret Servicemen on her trail.

Princess Radziwill said all the details of the wedding were in the hands of "my sister" and Onassis. She didn't even know, she said, if there were such things as a best man and a bridesmaid, though they are provided for in a Greek Orthodox marriage.

"I am really not entitled to talk about it," she said.

#### OFFICIALS STOP

Olympic Airways officials, who are on the payroll of Onassis as the controlling owner of the airline, chopped off all further conversation at the airport and forbade further contact. The performance was part of

the whole picture.

Prof. Ioannis Goergakis, the general manager, apologized.

"I'm sorry," he told newsmen, "but they do regard this as their own affair and that's the rule of the game."

Mrs. Kennedy apparently has been cleared to marry Onassis legally as far as the U.S. government is concerned.

A reliable source said the U.S. consulate in Athens dispatched a permit, properly translated into Greek, stating that, to the best of the consulate's knowledge, Mrs. Kennedy was not committing bigamy.